(b) and (c) Indian Airlines has, at present, no plans for introducing a direct service between Bhubaneshwar and Bangalore. The private operators are, however, being encouraged to add new stations in their networks to provide boost to development of tourism, trade and commercial activities in the State of Orissa, keeping the traffic potential in view.

Realisation of Doordarshan's dues from producers and Marketing Agencies

*434. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan's dues of Rs. one crore or more are to be realised from producers and marketing agencies;

(b) if so, which are those agencies and how much is the amount, principal and interest outstanding against each since 1996-97 onwards;

(c) action taken by Doordarshan to recover the amount from each of the debtors, individually;

(d) if no action has since been taken in any of the case, the reasons therefore;

(e) whether any responsibility has been fixed action taken against the officers responsible for the lapse in the recovery; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:

Agency	Amounts (Rs. in Lakhs)
M/s. ABCL	851.00
M/s. Plus Channel	500.00
M/s. Multi Channel	340.00
M/s. Prominent Advtg.	123.00
M/s. Creative Eye	114.00
M/s. W.D. Consumer	109.00
M/s. Sitaravision	105.00
M/s. Media Asia	104.00
	2246.00

These figures are provisional and do not include interest as reconciliation for 1996-97 is currently in process.

(c) Doordarshan is taking recourse to the contractual provisions including encashment of bank guarantee, de-accreditation of the errant agencies, arbitration and legal action etc. for recovering the dues.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Misuse of Export-Import Schemes

*435. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of misuse of the export import schemes by exporters to Russia have recently come to the notice of Government causing huge loss to the exchequer;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the modus-operandi of the exporters misusing the export-import schemes;

(c) the estimated annual loss suffered by Government as a result thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) Some cases of misuse have come to the

notice. These cases interalia include, misuse of Value Based Advance Licneces (VBAL) and Quantity Based Advance Licences (QBAL), wrongful availment of MODVAT under VBAL, import of goods not covered by the relevant Customs notifications, mis-declaration of value of export and import goods and export of inferior of junk materials. According to Ministry of Finance, since many cases are still at various stages of investigation/ adjudication, the loss suffered by the Government as a result of such misuse cannot be quantified.

Moreover, allegation of diversion of export consignments meant for Russia to third country destinations have also come to light.

Various measures have been taken by the Government to plug the loopholes and to prevent such misuse. These measures, interalia, include requirement by exporters to discharge export obligations interms of value and quantity under VBAL, modification of sensitive list, imposition of additioal customs duty for items importe under VBAL and QBAL, computation of CIF value of inputs with respect to their international prices, streamlining the procedure of verification for availing MODVAT, etc. VBAL scheme has also been discontinued with effect from 1st April, 1997 in the new Exim Policy.

The Government has taken effective measures to prevent diversion of export consignments meant for Russia and also impressed upon the Russian side to give rupee allocation only to experienced Russian entities to avoid possibilities of any irregularity in this regard. Due to various steps taken, no specific report on switching has been received in the last few months. An example of drastic reduction in this practice can be seen in the case of cashew, which was reported to have been largely diverted to third countires earlier, the export of cashew from India to Russia having come down from Rs. 260.3 crores during April-February 1995-96 to Rs. 5.7 crores during April-February 1996-97.

Action on CBI report on the Racket of keeping the CT Scan Machines out of order in Government Hospitals

*436. SHRI M.D. SALIM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state what steps Government have taken on the CBI report about the racket behind keeping the CT scan machines of the major hospitals out of order to give business to private diagnostic centres with whom the doctors of Government hospitals have arrangements for getting commissions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE(SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): Detailed instructions have been issued to all the Central Government hospitals to, inter-alia, have a check done on the down time of hospital equipment, fix responsibility for getting the repairs attended to promptly, review the outcome on a weekly basis and to take a number of related measures to improve the system for maintenance and repair of equipments. Government of NCT of Delhi has also been advised similarly. Meanwhile the High Court of Delhi is also hearing a public interest litigation on the same subject. The reason for down-time of each of the quipment was mainly due to non-availability of spares and special oomponents. In some cases, the equipment has become obsolete and is awaiting condemnation.

In order to instil a sense of accountability, orders have been given to the Central Government hospitals to display the position about major non-functional equipments so that there is pressure to set right such machines at an early date.

The CBI report had inter-alia expected that the study would help in formulating measures to ensure that there was uniformity in service/repair charges in